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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Yukinori MATSUMOTO et al.**

Group Art Unit: 2676

Serial No.: 09/994,829

Examiner: **Wesner SAJOUS**

Filed: **November 28, 2001**

Confirmation No.: 1134

For: **TEXTURE INFORMATION ASSIGNMENT METHOD, OBJECT
EXTRACTION METHOD, THREE-DIMENSIONAL MODEL
GENERATING METHOD, AND APPARATUS THEREOF**

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FEB 25 2004

TC 2600

Attorney Docket No.: 990191B

Customer Number: 38834

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

February 23, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after the issuance of a first official action on the merits and expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry in the national stage for the above-captioned application, but prior to the issuance of either a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

The undersigned hereby certifies:

☒ That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no

item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

An English-language version of the Office Action from the Japanese Patent Office, which indicates the degree of relevancy found by the Japanese Patent Office is enclosed to provide the requisite statement of relevance for the attached foreign references.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 is made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commission is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-2866 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully Submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP



Thomas E. Brown
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No.: 44,450

TEB:jnj
1250 Connecticut Avenue
Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 822-1100
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